

Application Number: 09/405,43

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-3, 8, 10, 15 and 17-19 as follows:

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1. (Amended) An apparatus for administering a liquid medicament, comprising a housing, a piston, a container and a propelling device, said propelling device comprising:
- (a) a base element;
 - (b) a first shifting stage being shiftable relative to said base element, said first shifting stage, on shifting, advances said piston in said container resulting in said liquid medicament being dispensed from said container in a metered manner; and
 - (c) at least a second shifting stage being shiftable relative to said base element as well as relative to said first shifting stage in said advance direction of said piston and slaving said first shifting stage in its shifting movement in an advance direction of said piston.
 - (d) said first and said second shifting stages, when seen in said advance direction of said piston, overlap at least in part, wherein said propelling device and said container are accommodated and fixed in place in the housing, that said piston is held in said container and said first shifting stage is connected to said piston only by exerting contact pressure on said piston.

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2. (Amended) The propelling device of claim 1, characterized in that said first and said second shifting stages are operably connected by a male thread and a female thread, forming a first spindle drive, a rotational movement of which causes said first shifting stage to shift.

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3. (Amended) The propelling device of claim 2, wherein said second shifting stage shifts as a driven member of a second spindle drive.

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8. (Amended) The propelling device of claim 1, wherein an axis of rotation of said two spindle drives are in alignment.

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10. (Amended) The propelling device of claim 3, wherein said first shifting stage is rotationally driven by a drive member of said second spindle drive via a spur gear unit.

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15. (Amended) A portable medicament administrating device comprising at least:

- (a) a housing;
- (b) a reservoir for a liquid medicament to be administered;

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- B5*
- (c) a piston which, by advancing, dispenses in a metered manner said liquid medicament to be administered from said reservoir; and
 - (d) a propelling device operably coupled to said piston by contact only for advancing said piston.

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17. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said first and said second shifting stages are operably coupled by respective complementary threaded portions to form a first spindle drive, a rotational movement of which causes said first shifting stage to shift.

18. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising a second spindle drive, wherein said second shifting stage shifts as a driven member of the second spindle drive.

19. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said second shifting stage is substantially slaved in both rotation and shift by said second spindle drive.

Please add new claims 21- 23 as follows:

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21. (New) A propelling device for a device for administering a medicinal liquid, said device for administering comprising a housing, said propelling device comprising a drive module operably coupled to the housing and comprising:

a piston;

shifting stages comprising a first shifting stage and a second shifting stage, said first shifting stage operably coupled to said piston only by contacting said piston; and

a motor drive operably coupled to said shifting stages.

22. (New) The propelling device according to claim 21, wherein the shifting stages are telescopically coupled.

23. (New) A device for dispensing a medication comprising:

a housing;

a container having an outlet, the container received in the housing and containing the medication to be dispensed through the outlet;

a piston; and